

CALEB - A MAN WITH ANOTHER SPIRIT

Caleb, whose name means “dog; bold”, was from the tribe of Judah (praise); Numb. 13:6. “But my servant Caleb, because he had another (different) spirit with him, and HATH FOLLOWED ME FULLY, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it”; Numbers 14:24.

Caleb said to Joshua: “Now therefore GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN”; Joshua 14:12.

Facts About Caleb:

1. His name reflects his character and nature:
 - a. Caleb was like a “dog”. A dog in scripture is an outcast: a symbol of shame or reproach; Isaiah 61:7. A dog follows and obeys his master; he abides in his shadow.
 - b. Caleb and Joshua were like “outcasts” among the congregation of Israel; they believed God, and stood against the tide of popular opinion. They had to endure persecution from the other tribes who wanted to stone them; Numbers 14:10.
 - c. Jesus called the Syrophenician woman a “dog”. But the tenacious faith of this “outcast” touched the Lord Jesus and she received what she asked for; Mark 7:27.
 - d. Caleb was “bold” and courageous. He walked through the land and brought back a good report: “Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it (the land), for we are well able to overcome it”; Numbers 13:3
2. Caleb was a dedicated and loyal servant of Moses and a companion of Joshua.
3. He prefigures the “first fruits” company of Revelation 14:1-5. He received his inheritance before the inheritance was given to each tribe; Joshua 14:13-15.
4. Caleb was an overcomer; he “wholly followed the word of the Lord”; Joshua 14:8, 14.
 - a. He was humble, but confident.
 - b. He had a positive outlook.
 - c. He had an awareness of God’s presence.
 - d. He had the attitude of a conqueror.
 - e. He finished his race well.
5. Caleb had a heart of FAITH, and his speech reflected faith and confidence in what the Lord had spoken; Numbers 13-14. He set a good example for the others.
6. The Lord preserved Caleb; his strength did not wane. At the age of 40, Caleb was sent out as a spy, and returned with a good report.
 - a. He was actively engaged in warfare even to the age of 85; Joshua 14:10-11.
 - b. The purpose of God’s strength is for “war, both to go out, and to come in”.
 - c. The word “strength” means “might, power, both to act and to endure; vital strength of body; energy”
7. Caleb and Joshua’s ability to drive out the giants was based upon the ABIDING presence of the Lord; Joshua 11:21-22; 15:13-14
8. Like David, Caleb was a GIANT-KILLER; Joshua 14:12-15; 15:14.
 - a. Caleb “drove out” three sons of ANAK; Numbers 13:22-23. The Anakims were a nomad race of long-necked giants in a mountainous country; Deut. 2:10-11.
 - b. Their chief city was Hebron, which became Caleb’s possession.
 - c. According to Numbers 13:28-33 and Deut. 9:1-2, the bible links the Nephilim (offspring of the sons of God and human women) with the sons of Anak.

d. This prefigures the end-time conflict between the SON of God (Head and Body) and the SON of Satan (head and offspring), both being corporate; see 2 Samuel 21:15-22.

9. Caleb received HEBRON, a generous reward for his inheritance:

- a. Hebron was a prime piece of real estate and was associated with the patriarchs.
- b. It was a city of refuge; Joshua 20:7.
- c. It is a center of grape and olive production (a fruitful place).
- d. It was previously named “Kirjath-Arba”, meaning “city foursquare, city of greatness”. Caleb took possession of it, and named it Hebron (“alliance, association”).
- e. The “city foursquare” became an “association” of honorable men. Alliances were formed for reformation and future kingdom strategies.
- f. It was a celebrated place; King David ruled from Hebron.
- g. Caleb also took possession of Debir (“oracle”); he had in his possession the WORD of the Lord in instructions, writings and learning; Joshua 15:15.

With Regard To Inheritance:

1. God’s love and mercy are not the issue here: it is our capability and eligibility that are in question.

2. We will only be entrusted with a full inheritance, to rule over all the works of God’s hands, if we fully obey the Lord as Caleb did; Numbers 14:24

3. Caleb asked for God’s highest and best inheritance in the land of Canaan. Hebron was valuable land, 3,000 feet in the mountains. He knew that there would be obstacles, but he would not settle for a mediocre inheritance.

4. There was an INDIVIDUAL inheritance for Caleb, and also a TRIBAL (family) inheritance for Judah.

5. Inheritance is ultimately determined by the sovereign will of Jehovah.

6. Inheritance varies; it differs in “degrees of glory”. Some will have an “abundant entrance” into the Kingdom of God; 2 Peter 1:11.

7. There is a “double portion” inheritance of the Firstborn Son (Jesus); there is a “Church of the Firstborn”; Hebrews 12:23. Caleb and Joshua are a “first fruits” company, portraying that group which enters FIRST into eternal life, and then into the glories of the heavenly Kingdom. There will be a people whose inheritance is two-fold:

a. They will not “die”, even as Caleb and Joshua did not die in the Wilderness, but went into the land and received their inheritance before the others (eternal life).

b. The second portion includes those who will have the double power of living in both the heavenly realm AND manifesting in the earthly realm (as Jesus did). They will have an inheritance among those who shall RULE and REIGN as co-heirs of the heavenly realm (heavenly glory).

